

REMARKS

Claims 7-15 are currently pending in this application. This Amendment amends claims 7, 11, and 12 in accordance with the original disclosure. Support for the amendments can be found in the specification at page 3, paragraph [0033]-[0035] and [0051], in the drawings, and in the claims as originally filed. Claim 15 has been amended to correct dependency. Claims 8, 9, 13 and 14 have been cancelled. No new matter has been added.

Drawing Objections

The Examiner has objected the drawings in Figures 1, 2 and 4 because descriptive labels are required on blocks 9, 10, 17, 4, 5, 11, 14, 13, 12, 3a, 3b, 3c, 2c, 2b, 2a, 3d, 3e, 3f, 3g, 2f, 2e and 2d. Copies of the replacement drawings are attached for insertion into the application.

Specification Objections

The Examiner has objected the Abstract because it contains the title of the invention. A replacement Abstract is submitted herewith.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Examiner has rejected claims 7-10 and 12-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The Examiner has stated that the claims "appear to merely describe mathematical transformation and lack of concrete and tangible result." The Examiner has stated that for the result to be tangible the final result determined must be stored and/or outputted so a user could make later use of it.

In response to this rejection, Applicants have amended independent claims 7 and 12 to include the additional step of storing the final result. These amendments should satisfy the statutory requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 101 because it is a tangible result.

Support for the amendments to claims 7 and 12 can be found in the specification at page 3, paragraphs [0035] and [0051], and in Figure 6. No new matter has been added.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)


In addition, the Examiner has rejected claims 7, 8, 11, 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0044293 to Burton. No prior art rejections have been made against claims 9, 10, 14 and 15. Therefore, it is believed that claims 9, 10, 14 and 15 contain patentable subject matter.

In response to this rejection, Applicants have amended claim 7 to incorporate the limitations of claims 8 and 9, and claims 8 and 9 have been cancelled. Claim 11 has also been amended to incorporate the limitations of claims 8 and 9. Claim 12 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claims 13 and 14, and claims 13 and 14 have been cancelled. Support for all amendments may be found in the specification and drawings as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the objections and rejections and allowance of the pending claims are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A perspective view of a seat assembly. The seat includes a seat back (2) and a seat cushion (3). A belt-like object (13) is positioned across the seat back. A load sensor (12) is located on the upper part of the seat back, and another load sensor (11) is located on the seat cushion. A deflector sensor (14) is positioned on the seat back, below the belt-like object. An arrow points from the belt-like object towards the right.

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FIG.4

